Remarks

In both requests for election, the Examiner says that the general inventive concept is lacking, She cites two references, Trefz, et al. and Papuashvili, which teach the use of monoclonal antibodies used to assay UTI. Both of these references were cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability. However, the present claims are not directed broadly to the use of monoclonal antibodies for detecting UTI, but to the use of antibodies secreted by hybridomas produced from purified uristatin. Monoclonal antibodies from uristatin are believed to be novel.

In the remarks following the claims in the Preliminary Amendment, both of these references were discussed, among others. Previously, the monoclonal antibodies were raised from higher molecular weight UTI's or the pro-inhibitors, and not from purified uristatin. It is the use of monoclonal antibodies raised from this lower molecular weight UTI that provides the general incentive concept unique to the present claims. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

2/8/07
Date

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